(Are You Addicted?)

Chapter 61: Little Dragon – Little Worm

Author: Chai Jidan

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"I've been staying at your place for more than 10 days now, how can I not see you jerking off?"

Bai Luo Yin lazily turned over, did not want to pay attention to Gu Hai, "Even so, I don't want you to see it."

Gu Hai leaned over, pressed his chest on Bai Luo Yin's back and whispered huskily, "So when will you do it? I've been with you every second, yet I didn't get to see you make any attempt."

Bai Luo Yin elbowed Gu Hai's hip real hard, "Is it fun talking about this at night?"

With hip throbbing in pain, Gu Hai's voice turned even more blunt, "Aren't those things meant to be discuss at night?"

Bai Luo Yin closed his eyes, ignoring the horny guy next to him.

Gu Hai reached out his hand to Bai Luo Yin's pants. At first, he pretended to touch Bai Luo Yin's abs, and when Bai Luo Yin didn't pay intention, he suddenly slipped inside, until Bai Luo Yin grabbed his hand to stop him, he had already reached to Bai Luo Yin's genital area.

Anger ignited in Bai Luo Yin's eyes as he suddenly lunged toward Gu Hai, aiming for his weakness and attacked like crazy.

"Go home if you are horny!"

Gu Hai laughed out so hard that his jaw almost fell off, "We're both guys, what's wrong with a little touching? Haven't you heard, getting touched by another guy will help improve your sex drive?"

"Nonsense. I've never heard such thing, and I don't need your help, my sex drive is superb."

Oohhh! Gu Hai was in astonishment, "If you say so, then you must have lots of experience. Have you had sex with your girlfriend?"

"So what if I did?"

Gu Hai didn't know whether it was due to curiosity or impatience, he kept on continuing, "Come on, be honest, you're still a virgin, right?"

Bai Luo Yin answered nonchalantly, "Go ask yourself, I am if you are."

Gu Hai felt his heart pounding.

"Let's talk. Tell me about your first time with Shi Hui, and I'll tell you about mine with Lu Lu."

"I don't want to listen to your first time with Lu Lu," said Bai Luo Yin.

Gu Hai gasped, "Why not? Because it'll excite you so you don't want to?"

"Excites me?" Bai Luo Yin sneered, "Isn't it like two men doing it?"

Gu Hai smacked Bai Luo Yin's forehead, "Who did you call a man?"

Without paying intention of the force of his hand, Gu Hai smacked Bai Luo Yin's forehead real hard, making the guy groan in pain.

Gu Hai immediately checked the place where he smacked Bai Luo Yin, carefully blew on the bruise, "Is it hurt?"

Bai Luo Yin brushed Gu Hai Hai's hands off, and pulled the blanket over his neck, "Let's just go to sleep!"

"Don't be like that!" Gu Hai clutched onto Bai Luo Yin with his body, "Come on, tell me!"

"Why would I tell you?" Bai Luo Yin was a bit impatient.

"To satisfy my curiosity, I'm quite interested in knowing your bed performances."

"Aren't you just trying to rub on my old wound? I've already broke up with her."

Seeing Bai Luo Yin not wanting to talk about his past, even still thinking about that Shi Hui, somehow Gu Hai felt a little annoyed.

"You don't tell me, meaning that you're impotent. On behalf of The Communist Party and The Chinese People's Liberation Army, I despise you."

It wasn't that Bai Luo Yin didn't want to tell Gu Hai, but basically there was nothing to be told. Bai Luo Yin and Shi Hui's first time was the night before she went to study abroad. Bai Yin Lou had insisted on making her stay, wanted to do something to bind her to him, wanted to have her staying home all day and calling him hubbie, hubbie...and even if she went abroad, she would still be marked as his. But when she stood in front of him naked, Bai Luo Yin froze up in the last step.

At that time, Bai Luo Yin thought even if they'd break up, Shi Hui's virginity is the best parting gift he could give her.

Therefore, days after Shi Hui had left, Bai Luo Yin still had dreams about that day, and it always ended up to where he was so closed to doing it with her.

"How about you tell me about your first time instead?"

Bai Luo Yin really couldn't imagine how little Jin Lu Lu can handle such a beast like Gu Hai.

"My first time? It was extremely pleasurable." Gu Hai began to brag.

Bai Luo Yin got interested, "Tell me, how extremely pleasurable?"

Gu Hai started to vividly retelling. In the middle of the night, two guys staying together on the same bed and was talking about such erotic matter, how could one not get excited? No more than ten sentences, both Bai Luo Yin and Gu Hai juniors (lol) rigidly erected, twitching under their thin layer of pants.

Noticed Bai Luo Yin's erection, Gu Hai teased, "Have you ever let other jerk you off? It feels really good."

Bai Luo Yin smile uncomfortably, "I refer doing it myself"

"It's normal for close friends to jerk each other off, you know. And your little guy there is screaming for me."

"Go to hell!" Bai Luo Yin got off the bed, put on his shirt and left.

Gu Hai kept on teasing from behind, "Your bathroom is see-through, so I'd be worried if you let your junior die of the cold."

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Chapter 62: Aunt Zou's Stall Got Smashed

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Note: In this chapter, the term Chengguan is mentioned several times. I'm not sure if this was explained in previous chapters, but Chengguan is a Chinese abbreviation of *The Urban Administrative* and Law Enforcement Bureau, a.k.a China's most violent, hated local cops. (Definition taken from Master Google).

Once finished breakfast, the two looked at each other, thinking whose turn it is paying today. "My turn". Bai Luo Yin reached into his pocket. "Eh? Didn't I put my wallet in here yesterday, where did it disappear to?"

"Just say that you don't want to pay today", Gu Hai told Bai Luo Yin and then stood up to pay.

In fact, last night Gu Hai was the one sneakily took out Bai Luo Yin's wallet from his trousers' pocket.

Aunt Zou, who was deep frying donuts, saw Gu Hai putting money into the paper tray, she hurriedly tried to stop him, "Oh, you guys don't have to pay."

"Aunt Zou, please, at least let us pay for our own meal."

As the two of them got up and was about to leave, a Chengguan car suddenly stopped by the curbside, then about four or five people got out of the car, with straight faces and batons in hands, rushed over to the breakfast stalls.

"Wait! Don't leave yet!" Bai Luo Yin grabbed Gu Hai's bike.

Without saying a word, those five Chengguan people began to kick down stoves and signboards, and broke all the pots and pans. A few customers, who were dining at that time, quickly collected their things and left the scene in fear. It all happened too fast, before anyone could even react to it, everything was smashed down creating a mess on the ground.

One bald guy in the group with crooked eyebrows, whose face looks nothing less than a bandit, seeing that the boiling oil pan was still standing, without caring if someone was next to it or not, he suddenly kicked the pan, which caused the boiling oil to splash on Aunt Zou.

"Aunt Zou!" Bai Luo Yin shouted, rushing over to stop the oil pan, but he was being pulled back by Gu Hai. The boiling oil spilled next to her feet.

Aunt Zou's eyes opened widely, the corners of her mouth twitched up, and in a mere second, she stumbled down to the floor as she clung onto her foot, crying.

"What are you doing?" Bai Luo Yin yelled.

The bald Chengguan said in disdain, "Tell me what it is? This is called law enforcement." "Then enforce your fucking law. But why are you breaking everything?" Bai Luo Yin was boiling with anger.

"Why do you think we're breaking everything?" The bald Chengguan kicked down the teapot next to him while asking, "If we don't destroy everything, you think this old hag will stop her business here?"

Seeing Aunt Zou sobbing on the floor, Bai Luo Yin's hands were trembling with anger as he glared at the Chengguan, as if his fierce gaze could strip away a layer of the Chengguan's skin. He aggressively stepped forward, but once again, got pulled back by Gu Hai. Bai Luo Yin's red eyes shifted from the Chengguan to Gu Hai, "Let go of me!"

Gu Hai, who was surprisingly calm, grabbed Bai Luo Yin's hands and gritted out each word, "First, we have to help Aunt Zou. Trust me! You just have to remember each and every face here."

Aunt Zou was groaning 'till her voice went hoarse, her legs kept on shaking because of the pain. There were people watching, but no one dared to step up and help her. The Chengguan smashed everything, tables and chairs all broke into pieces, all the money from Aunt Zou's money box scattered all over the floor. Aunt Zou, as afraid as she was, quickly picked up some coins near her, while the rest of the money was taken away by the Chengguan.

All the efforts, all the tears and blood of all these working years were all gone. Those pots and pans were worth nothing much, but to the honest, hard-working Aunt Zou who rarely charges customers for their meal, those pots and pans were her life. Breaking them was like forcing her to die.

Looking at the mess being left behind and at her empty money box, Aunt Zou couldn't feel anything, not even the severe burn on her legs. From the corner of her eyes, the tears quietly rolled down her face in misery.

Gu Hai helped Aunt Zou stand up, while Bai Luo Yin ran home and called for Bai Han Qi to rush Aunt Zou to the hospital.

"You guys go to school. I'll take her to the hospital". Bai Han Qi urged Bai Luo Yin and Gu Hai, "It's ok, don't worry. Go. Don't be late for school."

"Dad, I'll go with you." Bai Luo Yin worried.

"Listen to me," Bai Han Qi raised his voice.

Aunt Zou spoke softly in her hoarse voice, "I'll be ok. Hurry and go to school."

Bai Luo Yin stood back, quietly watched as his dad took Aunt Zou, who was agonizing in pain, to the hospital on his electric bike.

After long contemplation, Bai Luo Yin landed a hard punch on Gu Hai's stomach, "I cannot stand this!"

Gu Hai endured the pain, he didn't even hunch when he was hit.

Seeing Gu Hai trying to suppress the pain, with no resentment or anger, looking back at him with such comforting gaze, Bai Luo Yin calmed down little by little, the anger in his eyes began in fade away.

Looking at Bai Luo Yin, Gu Hai suddenly had a bitter taste in his throat. He would rather get punched or got insulted by Bai Luo Yin, than to see Bai Luo Yin like this.

"I know your disposition to do good, but when dealing with those kinds of people, we have to use some tricks."

Bai Luo Yin clenched his fists tightly, "I really can't stand this anymore."

"Ok. Ok" Gu Hai lowered his voice "Didn't you remember their faces? Don't worry, we won't let even one escape from this"

Bai Luo Yin let out a cold hiss, "Obviously they are bullying people. This is just a small alley, disturbing the public? Usually there's not even one Chengguan in this area, yet today they showed up out of nowhere and destroy everything...."

Gu Hai put his arms around Bai Luo Yin's shoulders and patted his back to soothe the guy, "Don't resent them."

Bai Luo Yin pushed Gu Hai away, eyes became as sharp as a sword, "I know who did this."

"Don't look for that person," Gu Hai grabbed Bai Luo Yin's hand, "Listen to me, do not go looking for that person."

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Chapter 63: Gu Hai Fiercely Retorted J

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Around ten at night, Gu Hai invited the Ministry of Construction and Housing's Director to have some tea.

"How is Commander Gu?"

Gu Hai remained expressionless and answered, "Very well. How about you?"

"Me? Not bad, not bad."

"I can see that. Not bad, both physically and mentally."

The Director smiled sheepishly, "Mentally? The thing is, a few things happened recently, so..."

"If your mentality is not good... how can you successfully lead such excellent team?" Gu Hai interrupted the Director.

The Director's facial expression suddenly changed, his smile became more and more awkward.

"Young Master Gu, please go straight to the point. If we have done something, please tell us."

Gu Hai squinted glaring at the Director in silence.

Terrified by Gu Hai's fierce gaze, the Director's heart beats so hard as it it'd jump out of his chest. "Did I do something to him?" He thought to himself.

"My aunt's breakfast stall was being destroyed by your Chengguan, and she's still in the hospital. Now you tell me."

"This..." The Director's face went pale as he stuttered, "Those damn shitheads... How dare they do that to your aunt's stall. Please don't get angry. Once I get back, I'll talk to their captain and make every single one of them go there to apologize to your aunt."

"So it's like that, if it was not my aunt, you would just go ahead and destroy people's business?"

"It's not like that. We wouldn't dare to." The Director's palm was covered in sweat, "It was wrong of them to have such barbarian behavior. I've taught them before; you win people over with ethics and compassion, not with violence, yet they don't listen..."

Gu Hai gave him a stone cold gaze, "Then take me to the Chengguan's headquarter."

"Right now?" With his eyes on the watch, the Director stammered "They're off duty right now, you can't even see them if you go there."

Gu Hai smiled faintly, "Off duty? So even Chengguan have working hours?"

"They do," the Director smiled uncomfortably, "Chengguan is an occupation, of course they have working hours.

"Then what time do they come to work?"

"Nine in the morning."

"But they came to my aunt's shop at six."

The Director couldn't come back with an answer, and swallowed in silence.

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"Everyone has gathered here. What do you want me to do with them?"

The Director, who seconds ago was acting all humbly in front of Gu Hai, turned over and yelled at the four Chengguan, cursing them with all the harsh words he could come up with. Gu Hai glanced nonchalantly at them and said 3 words out loud.

"Still missing one."

Cold sweats ran down the Director's face. The missing one, the bald Chengguan with crooked eyebrows, is in fact, his nephew.

"Do you remember correctly? There were only four of them on duty that day." Hearing that, the four Chengguan quietly grind their teeths.

"If I caught the missing one, I'll make him bear all the responsibility for the team, is that ok with you?"

The Director's lips twitched in fear. He let out a sigh and went outside to make a phone call.

A moment later, the bald Chengguan was summoned. His eyes were wide opened when seeing Gu Hai. Little did he know that such a high status person could go for breakfast at such a shabby place.

Even the Chengguan looked nothing less like a bandit that morning, right now, the only thing he resembled was a scared little kitten, constantly glancing at the Director, hoping he would save him.

Gu Hai took out a cigarette and held it between his lips, and immediately, the Director bent over and lit his cigarette.

Seeing the Director being humble and all, the bald Chengguan knew he messed with the wrong people.

"So how about I make them pay and use it as a compensation for your aunt's medical fee and the shop repair cost, will that be ok with you?"

"Don't be ridiculous!" Gu Hai flicked his cigarette "My aunt's shop is in the area you manage, so to avoid such problem in the future, I want to move her shop to a restaurant with 8 façades on the main street."

The Director's face changed in an instant, replied "Yes, yes, yes, it has to be a restaurant with great location.... This isn't something someone with your status should waste time thinking about... I will personally find a location for you."

"No need. I have already picked a place." Gu Hai put out his cigarette, calmly smiled "In Xinjiekou, there's a one restaurant with a great façade facing the main street. You should go there and negotiate with the landowner, make it fast so that I can move my aunt in."

The Director's face became unimaginably unsightly. Obviously, Gu Hai came prepared. That location was where his sister-in-law's restaurant was located. Because of the excellent location, the business is bustling, bringing in gold and cash to his family every year. So if he were to give the location to someone else, isn't it just like him cutting his own flesh? But what can he do? How could he talk back to such high-status people.

"Yes, Young Master. I'll make all the necessary arrangements as quickly as possible."

Gu Hai stood up, walked to the door, then suddenly stopped.

Seeing Gu Hai walk out, the Chengguan sighed in relief, but froze up as soon as Gu Hai turned around

"I think you guys are actually not bad." Gu Hai looked at the Chengguan, sarcastically compliment "It was only 6 in the morning, yet you guys showed up and destroy everything. Now that's a commitment to your work."

"You guys, a group of nearly thirty-year-old men, afraid a seventeen-year-old kid, so scared that you can't even speak a word"

"How about this, I'll introduce you guys to some part-time jobs. In just a few days, when my aunt's restaurant opens, during breakfast time, you should all come and work there as waiters. Isn't this a good opportunity for such strong and muscled guys like you?"

All of the Chengguan's faces turned black.

Gu Hai's lowered his voice "Not happy?"

"No no, we are more than happy." A short guy among the Chengguan spoke up. "We are willing to work for your aunt, even without getting paid."

Gu Hai smiled "That'd be imposing your kindness."

"Please, don't be humble" The Director added in "Let them work for you, if you're short on staff, I'll find you some. Let my nephew work there, he used to be a server before, he has lots of experience.

The bald Chengguan, with a painful expression on his face, looked at the Director, "Uncle..."

The Director gave him a fierce gaze, "How dare you call me uncle after causing such disaster? Take the chance and redeem for your action."

Gu Hai was heading for the door, when a loud bark drew his attention.

"Ooh, this Tibetan Mastiff is not bad, is it yours?" Gu Hai turned around, asked the Director.

With the corners of his lips twitching, the director mumbled "He... was a gift."

"Not bad. Lend me him a few days, I want to play with him."

"Please, he isn't for playing. That dog is ferocious, what if he bit you?"

"No worries, I have a dog trainer at home, this dog won't get mistreated."

The Director clung on Gu Hai's arm, before he could say anything, Gu Hai patted his shoulder.

"Thanks."

The Director cried out loud, but no tears were shed, "My restaurant, my heart, my soul, even my dog.. all taken away just because of one shabby shop."

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Chapter 64: Why Do I Like You So Much?

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Two days later, the Director himself went to visit Aunt Zou in hospital.

"Ma'am, I come here to apologise to you. What happened the other day is embarrassing. I've given those Chengguan a real good lecture, and I even fined them, so please forgive us."

Aunt Zou's eyes kept blinking, her face was full of doubt. It was nothing new for street vendors to get attacked by Chengguan, but for the Director himself to pay a visit and apologise in person was a very rare sight.

"Here is 5000 yuan. Please accept this as a compensation for your medical fee."

"This..."

Aunt Zou wanted to say that the total cost was not that much.

"Of course we'll take it". Gu Hai quickly took the envelope and slipped it under Aunt Zou's pillow. "You should take it, no need to be shy."

"Yes yes yes...." The Director nodded his head constantly, "It was wrong of us to ruin your business. The restaurant in Xinjiekou is all set up, all newly decorated, even the signboard is up, 'Aunt Zou's restaurant'. We will choose the opening day as soon as you get discharged."

Aunt Zou thought she was dreaming, turns out having her legs burned was not so bad.

Bai Han Qi, sitting next to her bed, asked, "In the future, does the restaurant have to pay tax or protection fee?"

"Please, don't worry about it, we'll cover for everything."

Aunt Zou almost fainted, looking at Bai Han Qi then to Bai Luo Yin and Gu Hai, who were standing near her bedside. She suddenly had a feeling of uncertainty in her chest, even though her luck had finally come.

"I'm afraid the business won't do well."

"No need to worry, ma'am. For the first two months, there will be helpers, if you have something you don't know, just ask them. As for the staff..." The Director glanced at Gu Hai

"The staff will work for you for one year, once the business go well, we'll find substitutes for you.

"That's enough. That's enough."

Aunt Zou couldn't contain her excitement. Before, in that small shop, she was all by herself, did all the labor work even when she was dead tired. Her children were busy with school, while other family members also had work, leaving her to run the shop all alone. She couldn't afford to hire help, so every day, she worked herself to the point that her back was too sore to stand upright.

The Director said hello to Gu Hai and paid his leave.

Once the Director was out of the room, Aunt Zou instantly opened the envelope, gasped of surprise.

"It really IS money, not blank paper"

Bai Luo Yin smiled, "Aunt Zou, didn't he say 5000 yuan?"

"It's not that I don't believe him" Aunt Zou trembled from emotions "Can 5000 yuan just come this easily? I can't even earn this much in a year. To have such luck, I hope there'd be no bad karma in the future."

Gu Hai said with much joy in his heart "Aunt Zou, this is the money you deserve. They rely on violence to enforce the law, intentionally injuring people. They're lucky we didn't sue them for criminal assault. So please, take the money, you don't have to be shy around them."

Tears began to roll down on Aunt Zou's face. After her shop getting sabotaged, she got admitted into hospital without a single penny in her pocket, with her children still going to school, she worried so much that her mind would explode... Even in her wildest dreams, she wouldn't think that one day, everything would work out just like this. She was just too happy to express herself.

After returning from the hospital, the two of them sat on the roof, quietly listening to the barking of the dog in the yard. The roof was covered with leaves which have fallen down because of autumn. There was something dreary and calm in the surrounding that sadden people's mind.

"About Aunt Zou... Thank you" Bai Luo Yin softly speak.

Gu Hai turned to Bai Luo Yin, pattes his forehead "Are you stupid? She's my aunt."

Bai Luo Yin remained quiet for a moment, turned to Gu Hai and asked, "Why don't you go back home?"

"I had a fight with my dad, so I don't want to go back there."

"Then, stay here."

Stunned by Bai Luo Yin's words, Gu Hai looked at Bai Luo Yin with affection.

"Even though this place is rundown, we're glad to have you here. Since you came, my dad cooks more often than before. He really likes you, and so does my grandma..."
"What about you?" Gu Hai suddenly asked.

Bai Luo Yin dazed when hearing Gu Hai asked him that.

Gu Hai's heart was beating fast when asking Bai Luo Yin, even faster than when he confessed to a girl. Carefully observing Bai Luo Yin's face, Gu Hai waited anxiously for his answer.

"I don't know. You tell me." Bai Luo Yin replied.

Gu Hai hugged Bai Luo Yin, burryung his embarrassed face into Bai Luo Yin's chest. His bristling stubble rubbed on Bai Luo Yin's shoulder. His affection for Bai Luo Yin changed little by little, from simple to complicated.

"I think that you like me."

Bai Luo Yin smiled helplessly.

Gu Hai saw that the corners of Bai Luo Yin's mouth moved a little bit, making him extremely satisfied inside. His cheeks became warmer despite the cold of autumn. Even though he was just wearing a thin shirt, Gu Hai didn't feel cold at all, in fact, he felt like there was a bonfire inside his body. This feeling, strangely overflowed from the bottom of his heart, is like spring sprouts emerging from the ground. A little vibration, a little uncertainty, a little sensation of itching, loosened up every bone in his body, so loose that it made people forget all about the time around them.

"Bai Luo Yin!"

"Huh?" Bai Luo Yin turned to Gu Hai. His face was only a few centimeters away from Gu Hai's, so close that the tip of his nose seemed to touch the other's.

"Tell me.... Why do I like you so much?"

The Tibetan Mastiff in the yard suddenly started to bark, making Gu Hai's voice be swallowed by the loud noise.

"What did you just say?" Bai Luo Yin loudly asked.

"Nothing."

Gu Hai tilted his head to look at the neighbor's porch.

Bai Luo Yin didn't ask what Gu Hai was saying.

In his mind, Gu Hai's replied "Darn it. I like you so much, so much that I can't feel anything else."

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Chapter 65: Do You Think It's Possible?

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Gu Hai dragged Bai Luo Yin with him to a premium club on in Sanlitun Bar Street, to meet his friends he hasn't seen in so long.

 $(T/N: San litum\ Bar\ Street\ is\ an\ area\ near\ the\ bustling\ center\ of\ Beijing,\ contains\ many\ popular\ bars\ and\ international\ stores.)$ 

"This is my friend from school, named Bai Lou Yin."

Zhou Si Hu laughed when patting Bai Luo Yin's shoulder "Looking good, bro."

Gu Hai pointed at Li Shuo, "His name is Li Shuo."

Li Shuo raised his glass, toasted Bai Luo Yin.

"I'm Zhou Si Hu."

Bai Luo Yin turned and smiled to him.

The four teenagers sat at one table, enjoyed their cheery conversation. Despite coming from different social classes, having different interests, they get along well due to being close in age. They talked about everything, from school, booze, bikes, license plates, to cars, girls, and finally the typical drunk talking topic, sex.

Li Shuo grabbed Bai Luo Yin's shoulder. "Say, did Gu Hai bang any chick at school?"

Bai Luo Yin answered honestly "No"

"Didn't I tell you?" Zhou Si Hu spoke with confidence "He's faithful to Lu Lu, these days there's hardly anyone who faithful to his girlfriend like Gu Hai."

Li Shuo thought he didn't see Gu Hai recently because the guy got himself a new girlfriend. After hearing Zhou Si Hu said that, how could he doubt him friend. Li Shuo truly admired Gu Hai, while people constantly changed their lovers, Gu Hai remained faithful to his "bold" girlfriend.

"Hey, do you know Jin Lu Lu?" Zhou Si Hu asked Bai Luo Yin.

Bai Luo Yin nodded "Yeah, I've met her once."

"Let me tell you, Gu Hai really goes out of his way for Lu Lu. I bet you don't even recognize Gu Hai when seeing him together with her."

"I'm pretty sure that's wasn't Gu Hai. But I really don't understand why he'd treat her so right." Zhou Si Hu kept talking nonstop, he felt restless if he didn't tell Bai Luo Yin about all of Gu Hai's coward and embarrassing moments.

"I'm telling you, don't be fooled by his cold face. Everytime he saw Lu Lu, he grinned so hard that his eyes couldn't open for three days. Every time we talk, what came out of his mouth was always 'Lu Lu this, Lu Lu that' to the point we got ear-fucked. Usually had we have something to ask him, we tell Lu Lu. Once she mentions about it, he never says no to her..."

Bai Luo Yin interrupted when Zhou Si Hu was rambling.

"Isn't that how he always is?"

"Huh?"

Before Zhou Si Hu could react to that question, Gu Hai was already next to them. With his hand on Bai Luo Yin's shoulder, Gu Hai smirked.

"What are you guys talking about?"

Bai Luo Yin took his wine glass in one gulp, responded "Nothing"

Gu Hai gave Bai Luo Yin a glass full of wine "Try this and see how it tastes."

Bai Luo Yin squinted and drank through the straw. He could felt the taste of cigarettes going down his throat.

"It's pungent"

Gu Hai raised the glass, drink the wine through the straw that Bai Luo Yin just used. He had that fulfilled expression on his face, as if the lousy drink had changed its taste.

"I think it's not bad."

Stunned, Li Shuo bumped into Zhou Si Hu's shoulder.

"Didn't you said that Gu Hai would never drink someone else's leftover?"

Zhou Si Hu busted out of laugh "I know that he ran away from home, but I hope life isn't too rough on him"

. . . . . .

Hearing the music coming from outside, the guys left the room. They sit by the bar counter, enjoyed the bustling and stimulating loud noise of guitar, bass and drums. On the dance floor, boys and girls danced their hearts out, twisted and spun their body like crazy under the dim lights of the club.

Li Shuo turned to Bai Luo Yin "Do you have a girlfriend?"

"Used to. But we broke up."

Li Shuo smiled "That girl over there keeps staring at you." Bai Lou didn't even lift his head, but instead asked Li Shuo a very important matter.

"Gu Hai... did you guys and Gu Hai jerk each other off before?"

Being asked such question made Li Shuo choke on his drink.

"Wait here."... Li Shuo walked toward Gu Hai and groped the guy's thigh. Gu Hai's face turned black "Fuck off!"

Li Shuo went back to Bai Luo Yin, his eyes were saying "Do you think that's possible?"

Seeing the expression on Gu Hai's face, Bai Luo Yin immediately knew the answer.

Li Shuo continued "Gu Hai hates it when people touch him. If it were really what you said, Zhou Si Hu and I wouldn't be standing here alive today."

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(Are You Addicted?)

Chapter 66: Not as Good as a Little Dog J

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At night, before sleeping, Bai Luo Yin purposely wrapped the covers around himself tightly, like a silkworm chrysalis. Both ends of the blanket pinned underneath him, leaving no space to enter. Just as Bai Luo Yin had expected, Gu Hai's leg stretched out, and began to ceaselessly explore the ball of blankets, trying to find a place to penetrate within. Sadly for him, Bai Luo Yin had pulled the blankets very tight, and Gu Hai's efforts went for naught.

"Isn't it painful, sleeping like that? Come, let your brother help you loosen the blankets," Gu Hai piped up shamelessly."

"Stay away from me."

Gu Hai's leg was still persistently trying to find a hole in the ball of blankets.

Bai Luo Yin was irritated; that fucking leg of Gu Hai's was like a large caterpillar, endlessly squirming about on his blanket, sometimes fast, sometimes slow, sometimes soft, sometimes heavy, and it really made him feel terribly upset.

"What the fuck are you doing? If you don't want to sleep, get out."

There was a gleam in Gu Hai's pupils. "I think your blankets aren't warm enough."

"What does my blankets not being warm enough have to do with you?"

"I can give you the warmth you need!"

As Gu Hai said so, he pounced on Bai Luo Yin.

Bai Luo Yin exhaled an angry sight. "Why are you like this every evening? Is there something wrong with you? Can't you sleep normally for once? Today was particularly hard for me, and since tomorrow is the weekend, you... haa..."

Gu Hai bit down on Bai Luo Yin's sensitive chin.

"You idiot!!!..."

Bai Luo Yin grabbed Gu Hai's hair and pulled him into the blankets.

Gu Hai didn't care about appearances, only taking the opportunity to prise open the ball of blankets. His two arms reached in and fiercely drew Bai Luo Yin into his embrace, their hug bringing him so much satisfaction that his saliva almost flowed onto the floor.

"Yin~" His voice rose slightly at the end of his words.

Bai Luo Yin had already given up on Gu Hai; why was this person such a rogue? If he were to try to appeal to Gu Hai's sympathy, hurting his own dignity in the process, Gu Hai would still not care, and would only intensify his actions. If he were to submit to such humiliation, when would all of it end? Would he be able to escape conscious and unscathed?

Gu Hai's hand began to crawl into Bai Luo Yin's pajama pants again.

This time, Bai Luo Yin mercilessly said, "Do you think what you're doing is normal?"

"What isn't normal?" Gu Hai immediately pulled back his hand, and pasted a virtuous expression on his face. "I have this kind of liking, and I like being close to my bros; did you not see me with Li Shuo today? He usually sticks very closely to me, and every time I touch him, he receives it with much obedience, so why are you so resistant to it?"

Bai Luo Yin was already feeling ashamed at Gu Hai's unblushing bragging earlier.

"Come on! Li Shuo told me earlier that, in fact, he's never done that before."

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Gu Hai was stunned for a moment, then stubbornly argued, "That's because he feels awkward to admit it. He's actually a lot like me, with a very thin skin.

Bai Luo Yin clenched his fists, giving Gu Hai an arrogant salute, then kicked him out of the blankets.

Gu Hai did not immediately try to return, and stared at the ceiling, thinking deeply.

"Hey... Why did you ask Li Shuo that kind of question out of nowhere?" Bai Luo Yin did not answer.

Gu Hai speculated out loud, "Maybe it was because you really wanted to try it out with me, but were a little hesitant, so you went to Li Shuo to seek some confidence from him?"

Bai Luo Yin raised his eyebrow. "Why do you think Ah Lang cried out so spectacularly earlier today? It wasn't normal, so I went out to take a look."

"Ah Lang, Ah Lang." That was the sound of Bai Luo Yin's gentle call earlier that day.

Ah Lang increased the volume of his yells, barking so loudly that it was fit to wake the dead, and Bai Luo Yin waved the flashlight around to investigate, noticing that Ah Lang's claws were stuck between two bars of the cage. Bai Luo Yin carefully pried them out, and stroked Ah Lang's head, calming him down quickly, so that he peacefully settled down by the cage door. Bai Luo Yin realised that there were traces of blood on Ah Lang's mouth; they were likely from when he had bit at the bars when his claws were stuck.

Bai Luo Yin tenderly kissed the top of Ah Lang's mouth.

Gu Hai was standing out in the bleak, bitter autumn wind, such that he was almost in tears; after struggling for so many days, his standing in the house was still lower than a dog's!

Bai Luo Yin returned to the house, and Gu Hai sat down on the bed, sighing constantly.

"My mouth feels like it's on fire, it's really painful."

Bai Luo Yin snapped his fingers. "Wait, we have medicinal cream here at home."

"We have to apply medicinal cream?" Gu Hai purposely provoked Bai Luo Yin.

Of course it was needed. Bai Luo Yin held the bottle of cream reverently, personally soaking a cotton wool ball with it, and dabbed softly at the corners of Gu Hai's mouth, his movements very slow and careful.

Although he hadn't yet earned a kiss, but with Bai Luo Yin being so caring with him, Gu Hai already felt very touched.

He obviously could have passed the cotton wool to him and forced him to apply it himself, so how much did he actually cherish him?

The ointment was cool to the touch, and left him feeling more relaxed.

"What cream is this? It's really effective!"

"It's a cream for hemorrhoids," Bai Luo Yin replied calmly.

Bai Luo Yin pressed down on Gu Hai's shoulders to make them relax, patiently comforting him: "It's okay, this cream can be applied anywhere, last time I used it to treat myself when my mouth was hurt."

"What is something weird happens? Are there any side-effects if you use it?"

Bai Luo Yin's hands stopped moving. "Side-effects? I think you'll grow out two hemorrhoids..."

Gu Hai's face wasn't clear in the pitch darkness of the night, and nothing could be seen except for the whiteness of his teeth.

(Are You Addicted?)

Chapter 67: Come At Me If You Dare

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It was Bai Luo Yin's first time coming to the large house Gu Hai rented, and he realised that it was very clean, cleaner than *his* bedroom at least.

"You're still keeping your old broken phone?" Bai Luo Yin picked up the machine lying on the windowsill.

Gu Hai was sorting out his things, and casually replied, "I forgot to throw it out."

Bai Luo Yin walked out of the house and went to the neighboring uncle's home, borrowing a screwdriver and tweezers, and sat on the stone bench outside to start working. Less than half an hour later, Bai Luo Yin had fixed the broken phone, and after brushing off the screen, he returned to the house and gave it back to Gu Hai.

"Try it."

Gu Hai was a little skeptical. He took the phone and tried it out; it could switch on properly, and send text messages normally, although the ringtone was a little soft, but that did not affect its usage.

"Amazing!" Gu Hai was shocked. "You managed to fix it even though it was spoiled so badly?"

"No problem, all these types of old phones are the same – they're all pretty durable."

Gu Hai realised that Bai Luo Yin was actually really clever, and secretly his appreciation for him grew stronger.

"You still want to keep these?" Bai Luo Yin said, pointing at the debris on the desk.

Gu Hai straightened up and looked at them. "Whatever, if you think they'll still be useful just take them."

Bai Luo Yin picked up the still-functioning objects and put them in his pockets. As he went along, some pieces of the paper pasted on top of the desk. The moment he saw them, his anger flared up; those pieces of paper were the composition he had written, which had been stolen by Gu Hai, what an idiot he was!

Gu Hai saw Bai Luo Yin's reaction, but was still unrepentant, and still took out more pieces of paper form the drawer, waving them in front of Bai Luo Yin.

"Take a look, hasn't my handwriting become pretty similar to yours now?"

Bai Luo Yin furiously glared at Gu Hai. "If you wanted to copy you should have asked me first! Because of these missing compositions, the language teacher doesn't pay any attention to me now!"

"You don't pay attention to her either!"

"I shouldn't pay any attention to you either." Bai Luo Yin clenched his teeth.

"Why don't you try it?" Gu Hai's sharp gaze fell on Bai Luo Yin's face.

Bai Luo Yin unflinchingly returned his stare, and after five seconds had passed, Gu Hai sighed and looked away.

"That... Look at the words I wrote, is there any improvement?"

Actually, even if Gu Hai had not asked that question, Bai Luo Yin still wanted to say, the words he wrote now were much better than when he had started out, but looking at Gu Hai's arrogant expression, he suddenly didn't feel like saying it any longer.

"Why are you silent? Is it good or bad?"

Gu Hai gritted his teeth secretly; if the idiot dared to say it wasn't good, he'd kick his ass!

Bai Luo Yin arrogantly looked at Gu Hai, calmly replying, "It's passable!"

This one word boosted Gu Hai's ego greatly; to him, praise from Bai Luo Yin held so much value! Gu Hai felt as if he had drunk ten cans of Red Bull, causing him to be full of energy, and he felt like tearing apart his house and sprinting two rounds round the garden.

Bai Luo Yin was amused by the cocky expression on Gu Hai's face.

The moment Bai Luo Yin laughed, Gu Hai's eyes shone.

Jin Lu Lu stood at the doorway, her face dark; she had just clearly seen this scene of harmony and joy, and realised that in all her three years with Gu Hai, she had never seen him with that kind of

expression before. Previously, Gu Hai's friends had all said he would only show his second type of expression with her, but now Jin Lu Lu realised that he had a third kind of expression, which she had never witnessed before. She felt both enchanted by it, and hurt.

Girls are all very petty. Even if it were just his friends, or even a dog being kept by him that was commanding his attention, she could not stand it.

Bai Luo Yin saw Jin Lu Lu and nudged Gu Hai, gesturing towards the doorway.

Gu Hai was a little stunned. "Why are you here?"

Jin Lu Lu realised, the expression he had shown earlier disappeared when he looked at her, and changed back to its old flavor.

"Why do you think? Today's the weekend."

Gu Hai was a little too surprised to speak. He felt like the past week had flown by very quickly, and that the weekend had come too soon. Before, he had thought the weekdays hard to bear, but now he no longer had the habit of counting down the days. To him, every day seemed the same, now.

"I'm moving houses! I didn't have my phone, so I couldn't contact you."

Jin Lu Lu picked up the phone on the desk and waved it around. "What's this?" "Wasn't that phone already spoiled?"

The moment he finished speaking, the phone rang, and Jin Lu Lu coldly pressed the screen. The call went through.

Thud!

Jin Lu Lu violently threw the phone onto the ground. It landed hard on the ground, the screen shattering in many places.

Gu Hai's face changed from shock to uncontrollable anger in a matter of seconds. He strode over to Jin Lu Lu and grabbed her shoulders, pressing her against the wall, and talking to her fiercely. "Who gave you permission to break this phone?"

Jin Lu Lu hid her tears, and answered,

"All the times we argued, how many phones have we broken? You're getting angry at me just because of this dumb old phone?"

Gu Hai's eyes were only filled with a red haze of anger.

"This was the phone Yin fixed for me, who the fuck let you break it?"

"I'll break it if I want to!! So what if he fixed it for you?"

Jin Lu Lu ruthlessly stomped on the phone on the floor, and Gu Hai could hear it shattering.

"Look at me, I'm stepping on it and breaking it, if you have the guts to do so you can stop me!"	

(Are You Addicted?)

Chapter 68: A Little Unpleasant Feeling

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During the conflict itself, a hand stretched over, and grasped Gu Hai's arm.

"Don't argue anymore, it's just a phone, isn't it?"

Bai Luo Yin's voice was very calm, and he wasn't using mush strength to hold on to Gu Hai's arm, but this kind of gentle force made Gu Hai's heartbeat slow down a little, and the hand he had on Jin Lu Lu's shoulder relaxed.

"Gu Hai, you're not a man!"

Jin Lu Lu yelled violently, pushing aside Gu Hai, pushing open the door and sprinting out of the compound.

Gu Hai stood where he was, unmoving.

Bai Luo Yin fiercely struck his shoulders. "You idiot, why aren't you going after her?!"

"Why should I go after her?" Gu Hai's swollen red eyes glared at Bai Luo Yin.

"She came here alone to find you, and you've been together for three years, so you should take the lead to mollify her."

Gu Hai was silent.

Bai Luo Yin grabbed Gu Hai's collar, aggressively yelling, "You fucker, are you a man or not?"

Gu Hai caught hold of Bai Luo Yin's hand, his calm and soft voice hiding his inner turmoil of emotions.

"Yin, I'm going to listen to your advice, but do you really want me to go after her?"

Bai Luo Yin's heart wobbled slightly at that moment, but the urgency of the situation forced out his words.

"Yes, you have to go. Girls' emotions are unstable, and something bad might happen."

Gu Hai turned and ran out the door.

Bai Luo Yin's long body stiffened for a few moments, then he bent down to pick up the fragments on the floor.

By the time Gu Hai had walked out, Jin Lu Lu had already run to another corner of the alley. Gu Hai saw her movements and quickly rushed over. Soon, Gu Hai was following on Jin Lu Lu's footsteps, and saw her sit by some tree roots, squat on the ground, and start crying as if there were no tomorrow.

It was the first time he had seen her like this.

He did not understand; was it she who had created the rift between them, or he?

Before, they had had their ups-and-downs, quarrels, arguments... These different periods in their relationship had come and gone, and no matter what had happened, it had not degraded the love between them.

But now, Gu Hai felt a little tired.

He did not know if he was tired of their love, or of life in general.

Jin Lu Lu saw Gu Hai and her tears abruptly stopped. Although she had already lost this round in their relationship, she didn't want to give Gu Hai another thing to look down on her for.

"Gu Hai, this is the first time you've chased after me after we quarrel."

Gu Hai silently looked at her swollen red eyes, her thin face and her stubborn mouth, and his heart squeezed painfully. It was just as Zhou Si Hu had said; this was the girl he had treasured for three years, a long period of time, and such a long association could bring about real feelings.

"Don't throw such a tantrum in the future," Gu Hai said.

Jin Lu Lu vigorously hugged Gu Hai, crying with loud sobs. She had thought that their relationship was over – she thought this way every time they argued – so she had silently grown more and more scared, feeling that it was very embarrassing to apologize to him. Gu Hai apologizing on his own made Jin Lu Lu feel very privileged and happy, and she wasn't about to start a new quarrel, realising that her actions earlier had been quite over the top.

The two of them stood by the tree roots and talked for a long time about the incident, talking about their feelings, what they should do each time they have to separate, and in the end, they made up successfully.

"I'm not going to throw a tantrum anymore, don't worry."

Jin Lu Lu wiped away her tears, pulling on Gu Hai's arm. "Come, I'll help you in your moving preparations."

When they returned to the house, the landlord told Gu Hai that Bai Luo Yin had already finished up everything.

Gu Hai looked at the empty and cleaned house, and his heart throbbed. How many trips had Bai Luo Yin made back and forth to carry his things, how long had he toiled?

Jin Lu Lu only just remembered to ask, "Where are you moving to?"

"Yin's house, I'm saying at Yin's house for a while."

Jin Lu Lu's expression was a little miffed, but they had just made up, and so she didn't mention it again.

While they were eating, Jin Lu Lu began ceaselessly talking about the things going on in her school, about the female bullies she had managed to take care of, how there had been bugs in the canteen food, how she had thrown her food at someone's face, how the class monitor kept wearing old-fashioned clothes, how the school had recently come up with a new uniform which was really quite ugly...

Gu Hai remained silent, until they were served smoked duck brain, and he spoke up with a laugh. "Yin likes eating this."

The good mood Jin Lu Lu had built up was broken by these words.

"Gu Hai, let me ask you something."

Gu Hai lifted his eyebrows, and calmly returned, "What?"

"Don't you think you and Bai Luo Yin are getting a bit too close?"

"What's your problem with that?" Gu Hai's face darkened.

Jin Lu Lu angrily picked up a piece of meat and put it in her plate.

Gu Hai felt a little irked, and he put down his chopsticks, asking, "Which healthy young man doesn't have a friend he's particularly close to, huh? What do you have against him? Let me tell you, you just don't know him, and if you did, you'd definitely like him. Don't look at his bad family situation, he's a man of many trades, and his personality is really unique. He doesn't like laughing, but he's actually a passionate person, and sometimes when he wants to care for you, he feels awkward doing so, and just

does it covertly, persisting even when you try to brush him off. He has a sharp tongue and soft heart, and although his words piss people off, his heart's actually really good. I've eaten and lived off his family for so long, yet although he pretends to chase me off vehemently, if I don't return, he feels anxious and disturbed. Oh, and also, he's extremely clever, and likes to fix and fiddle around with things, that time when he revamped our classroom door, he fixed it up so that it can be locked from the inside. That phone just now was fixed by him even though it took a swim in the river..."

Actually, Gu Hai had just intended to say a little to dispel Jin Lu Lu's worries, but he had not expected that once he began speaking, he would be unable to stop. The more Jin Lu Lu listened, the angrier she got; it was the first time Gu Hai was speaking so much to her, and it wasn't even talking about her, so wasn't it only natural that she would get inflamed?

Gu Hai was completely oblivious to her sentiments, and thought only that if he spoke with passion, his listener would become similarly enamored.

Jin Lu Lu suppressed her fury, and fiercely chomped down on the noodles in her mouth. His words really put a bad taste in her mouth! So what if he was a man? It was precisely because he was a man that she was feeling unsettled, was Gu Hai unable to weigh his priorities properly?

After the meal, Gu Hai's feelings had already softened and settled down very much.

When they were paying the bill, Gu Hai took advantage of the time the waiter took to count out their change, and bent his head to whisper to Jin Lu Lu, "Today, Yin praised me for the improvements in my handwriting."

Jin Lu Lu almost threw the money plant on the service counter on the floor. "Goodbye!! Take care!"

The entire afternoon, Gu Hai accompanied Jin Lu Lu to various branded stores to shop. At night before sleeping, Gu Hai felt like his heart was very light. When he closed his eyes, he could only see Bai Luo Yin's vision floating before him. He felt as if he wasn't breathing in incense smoke, but the smoke from drugs, which was slowly permeating his body, until he felt his mind get more and more confused. During the day, while he was lucid, the noise and bustle of the streets had covered up his real feelings, but now they returned in full force.

There was a high-definition love drama showing on the television, and Jin Lu Lu was watching it while occasionally making comments.

"Isn't this woman an idiotic bitch? This guy, he's such a bastard, don't you agree that he's such a useless bum? I'm not going to watch it anymore, let's sleep."

Then, she hugged Gu Hai, and wriggled into the comfort of the blankets. The night was cold and silent, Gu Hai drifted off to sleep in a daze.

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"Da Hai, look at the new play-gun I made, let's fight!" Bai Luo Yin wiped his nose.

Gu Hai stopped short; in front of his was a fat, plump little boy, his eyes bright and shining, his mouth opening and closing non-stop, and he seemed a little familiar...

"Who're you?"

"I'm Yin!"

Gu Hai was shocked speechless. "How did you change into such a little goblin?"

T/N: The literal translation is 'toy', or 'plaything', but Gu Hai actually means the insult in the sense that he's become like a small, mischievous child (hence the 'goblin').

"Who's a little goblin?" Bai Luo Yin straightened his little waste. "Look at yourself; you're not even taller than I am!"

Gu Hai looked down at himself, seeing his corduroy overalls, and his shoes which were definitely smaller than size 30. He stretched out his arms, and they were like segments of a lotus root.

"How did this happen?"

Bai Luo Yin smiled until his cheeks turned red. "We've known each other from young!"

"We've known each other from young?" Gu Hai pulled on Bai Luo Yin's arm.

Bai Luo Yin happily cried out, "That's right! We're childhood friends!"

Childhood friends? How awesome... Gu Hai caressed Bai Luo Yin's face. So, they had known each other from young – such a glorious thing to happen, now they could start from the beginning, and play together until they grow old.

Gu Hai laughed and hugged Bai Luo Yin close, and Bai Luo Yin planted a small kiss on Gu Hai's cheek. Gu Hai returned the kiss, Bai Luo Yin kissed him back, and Gu Hai kissed him again...

Suddenly, Gu Hai woke up.

In the blackness of the hotel room, the warm light from the wall lamp was still merrily flickering. Gu Hai felt a little wetness around his mouth, and as he touched it, his heart skipped a beat.

Why had that idiot Yin toss the blankets on the floor again?

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Chapter 69: Nobody Touch Him! J

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In the morning, when Jin Lu Lu awoke, the man by her side was already gone. She got off the bed and looked in the other rooms, finally finding him alone on the balcony smoking, having been there for god only knew how long.

Jin Lu Lu yawned a few times, lazily walked towards him, and hugged him from behind.

"You got up so early?"

Gu Hai calmly assented, brushing off the ash from his hands.

Jin Lu Lu realised that the smoke tray was full of ash, like a pile of broken white chalk, their disorderly arrangement reflecting Gu Hai's emotions.

"You didn't sleep well last night?"

"I slept pretty well."

Gu Hai shrugged off the hand she had on his waist and turned around, his obvious eye-bags green and grey.

"Grab your things, I'll send you home."

Jin Lu Lu's eyes were as hard as iron, staring at Gu Hai for a long time, before she spoke: "Why're you so eager to kick me out?"

Gu Hai didn't reply, and returned to the room to put on his jacket.

"Let's eat together again. Ask Bai Luo Yin to come, yesterday when I smashed the phone in front of him it must have given him a bad impression, so let's eat together to save my face."

Gu Hai was still silent, and Jin Lu Lu took that as an unspoken assent.

When the two of them returned to the Bai home, Bai Luo Yin had just awoke, and was washing his face in the garden.

When Jin Lu Lu saw this, she couldn't resist sighing loudly, "Don't tell me... You want to move here?"

Gu Hai completely ignored Jin Lu Lu's words and focused on Bai Luo Yin, the feeling in his heart sweet beyond words.

"Why is he using cold water to wash on such a cold day?" Jin Lu Lu had a dissatisfied expression. "Do they make you wash with cold water too?"

Gu Hai didn't respond and straightaway walked into the house, Jin Lu Lu following behind.

When Ah Lang saw that a stranger had entered, he kept barking from inside his cage, so fiercely that Jin Lu Lu clung to Gu Hai's arm.

"My God, why are they raising a mastiff here?"

Bai Luo Yin heard Ah Lang's loud barks and lifted his head, just in time to see Jin Lu Lu clinging to Gu Hai's arm and walking in.

"Let's eat together in the afternoon!"

"Okay." Bai Luo Yin replied straightforwardly. "I'll go in to change my clothes first."

A few moments after Bai Luo Yin went in, Gu Hai also followed, leaving Jin Lu Lu to wait outside alone.

"Hey, wait a moment."

Bai Luo Yin had just picked up his clothes, but put them down on hearing Gu Hai speak.

"What?"

Gu Hai walked in front of Bai Luo Yin and held his face in his hands, saying with a frown: "You little idiot, have you gotten a small pimple?"

Bai Luo Yin had not realized it himself. "I think I've been consuming too many 'heaty' things." T/N: 'Heatiness' refers to the balance of yin and yang in someone's body (in Traditional Chinese Medicine). Heaty foods/drinks are said to cause certain ailments/illnesses.

Gu Hai smiled evilly. "Is it from thinking about me?"

"Get out! I hope you disappear somewhere far away!"

The lengthy turmoil in Gu Hai's heart suddenly lightened.

When they were eating, Jin Lu Lu purposely said to Bai Luo Yin, "Gu Hai likes you more than he likes me."

"How can you tell?" Bai Luo Yin asked.

Jin Lu Lu words were both joking and serious. "He always looks at me seriously, but he's always laughing around you."

Gu Hai expressionlessly added, "It was you who said that you feel safer when I'm cold to you." Jin Lu Lu obviously did not agree with his words.

Bai Luo Yin replied in a slow, relaxed tone, "See, it's like this; every man has two different sides when he's with his girlfriend and when he's with his buddies. In front of his girlfriend, he wants to have an enigmatic visage, so he has to pretend and suck it up, otherwise how can he keep your affection? He's different in front of his buddies, because he doesn't have to keep up his image, so he can relax completely and play around as he wants, and that's why you think he's closer to his bros."

Jin Lu Lu finally laughed. "Look at him, he's got a sharper tongue that you do."

Although his girlfriend had praised another man, Gu Hai didn't feel annoyed, but instead felt a little proud.

At the end of the meal, Jin Lu Lu suddenly said to Gu Hai, "Hit Bai Luo Yin."

Gu Hai's face darkened. "Why should I hit him?"

"Nothing, I just want to see, don't you often hit and play around with your bros?"

"Is it that you've got nothing better to do?" Gu Hai's voice had become cold.

Jin Lu Lu was speaking with a smile on her face; she wanted to test Gu Hai's feelings towards Bai Luo Yin under the guise of a playful dare, but Gu Hai's reaction made her unable to bear it any longer.

"Gu Hai, I'm only joking, what're you getting angry for? You're so averse to the idea? He's a grown man, what's wrong with just hitting him a little bit? You can't even do that much?"

"No way!" Gu Hai's every word was forceful. "Don't say anything, no one gets to touch him!"

Jin Lu Lu fiercely smashed her chopsticks down. "Gu Hai, you make me so angry!"

"If you're angry then get out!"

Jin Lu Lu violently kicked over a chair by the table, and ran out of the restaurant.

(Are You Addicted?)

Chapter 70: Gu Hai's Conscience Appears

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After Jin Lu Lu hit the table and left, there was silence all around them.

It was only after a long while that Bai Luo Yin asked Gu Hai, "Why did you make her angrily run out again?"

Gu Hai's face was a sea of black. "What, was it my fault for chasing her out? Did you not see her shameful actions? Just ignore her, she can leave if she wants!"

"You two are really..." Bai Luo Yin was losing his patience. "How did you guys even get together?"

Gu Hai was currently trying to catch his breath! Of course he would not be in the mood to answer this question.

Bai Luo Yin sighed, picking up the leftover noodles in his bowl, and calmly said, "Fine, let's have some peace and quiet from now on, it's really annoying to always have conflicts."

Gu Hai put the leftover cuttlefish meatballs into Bai Luo Yin's bowl, silently finishing his leftover noodles himself.

The two of them walked out of the restaurant without speaking.

When they returned, Bai Luo Yin tossed a box towards Gu Hai.

"What's this?" Gu Hai was a little startled. "For me?"

"Don't talk rubbish! I tossed it to you, if it's not for you then who is it for?"

Gu Hai opened the box and looked inside, it was a new and trending hand phone, with the brand and appearance that he liked very much, and he knew without asking that Bai Luo Yin had picked it. Gu Hai felt strangely touched, and when he saw the figure of Bai Luo Yin's body swaying beside his, he didn't know how to express his feelings, and hugged him directly.

"Yin, you're too good to me."

"Go and hug my dad instead!" Bai Luo Yin irritably pushed Gu Hai away. "He was the one who paid, and it was he who insisted we buy it, no matter how much I tried to stop him."

Gu Hai ran to the window and yelled at Bai Han Qi, who was standing outside it.

"Uncle, thank you!"

"You little idiot, why are you thanking me?" Bai Han Qi wiped away the sweat on his forehead with his clothes. "If Yin hadn't dragged me to the shops, I wouldn't have known to buy this type of phone. For me, as long as it can make calls and not be damaged easily it's good enough, but Yin said it's not enough, and insisted that we buy a fully-functioning one."

Gu Hai's probing had finally dug out the secret.

"Don't listen to Yin's words, he's talking rubbish!"

Bai Luo Yin vehemently kicked Gu Hai's buttocks. "You bastard, don't come here to take advantage of others and show off your own cleverness!"

Gu Hai cheerfully looked at Bai Luo Yin. "How about you? You don't have a phone..."

"What should I want a phone for?" Bai Luo Yin had an expression of extreme nonchalance. "I don't have anyone to contact, so it's just a waste of money."

"You could contact me!" Gu Hai darted in front of Bai Luo Yin.

Bai Luo Yin gritted his teeth. "You bastard, you're stuck by my side twenty-four-seven, what need do I have of a phone?"

Gu Hai chuckled twice. "That's so, but now I don't have anyone I want to contact, so even if I have a phone it's useless."

"Dammit!" Bai Luo Yin glared at Gu Hai. "I wanted to use this phone to distract your attention!" Gu Hai placed his mouth next to Bai Luo Yin's ear, his voice full of charm.

"Then don't you feel jealous hatred towards this phone?"

Bai Luo Yin screamed at him to get out. He immediately kicked Gu Hai out of the house. Gu Hai strolled around outside for a while, and saw Bai Han Qi place a ladder next to the wall, happily climbing upwards.

"Uncle, why're you climbing up so high?"

"It's rained a lot the past two days, so the roof's leaking a little. The rice I just dried has been soaked, so I'm going up to add a layer of reinforcement."

"Come down, I'll go up."

"Can you even do this kind of job?"

Bai Han Qi wiped his sweat; today was a hot day, and the afternoon sun was quite debilitating. "I really can do it, just come down."

While speaking, Gu Hai climbed up onto the windowsill, holding on to the rafters, and jumping on with one smooth move onto the roof, so why would he even need a ladder? Bai Han Qi's eyes popped out as he saw this; how had this little scallywag even managed to get up? Just now he was still on the ground speaking to him, so how had he flown up so quickly? "Uncle, let me do it."

Actually, Bai Han Qi had been equally fit when he was younger, and he could easily climb up and down the house, but now he was older, so his limbs weren't as agile, and he had gotten a little afraid of heights.

"You really can do it?" Bai Han Qi's face was full of suspicion.

"Well, when you say that, actually I..."

Gu Hai wanted to say that he had done all sorts of things in the army, but was afraid Bai Han Qi would question him about that, so he didn't continue, and took the bucket from Bai Han Qi's hand, smoothing the cement over the tiles with practiced movements. Although it couldn't measure up to an actual bricklayer's work, it was pretty passable.

Bai Luo Yin walked out and shouted towards the roof.

"Dad, come down, let him do it, or else he wouldn't be earning his keep."

"That's right, Uncle, please go down!"

Bai Han Qi smilingly agreed, carefully climbing to the rafters, and began to feel around for the ladder with his legs.

Gu Hai saw Bai Han Qi's phone peeking out of his pocket. It looked like it had been used for many years, until the black paint was missing in several places. Gu Hai realised straightaway that this type of phone had been bought from the sellers on the street, and was a pirated hand phone, costing not more than two hundred dollars. He thought of his own phone, and his heart soured a little. Bai Luo Yin had never talked about his family circumstances, and had only mentioned it a few times while drunk. Bai Han Qi only earned less than five thousand a month, and had to take care of a family with both young and old; he paid a standard rate for Bai Luo Yin's grandparents' medical treatment, and this already used up more than half of his income. Adding on the cost of buying meals

for a whole household, and his own addition to the household... Even if Bai Han Qi didn't mention anything, Gu Hai could tell that he had been very reluctant to buy this hand phone.

(Are You Addicted?)

Chapter 71: A Quiet Little Night J

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At night before sleeping, Gu Hai asked Bai Luo Yin, "Why did Uncle not open a store together with Aunt Zou?"

"Why would he need to open a store together with Aunt Zou?" Bai Luo Yin returned.

"Think about it, it was a golden opportunity, with free housing and no need to pay rent. The staff are already taken care of, so it's a good way to earn money! Auntie can't cope with the workload alone, so if Uncle were to go and help, with two people running the store, it would be better and easier than his lousy job as a lowly engineer..."

Bai Luo Yin sighed. "Your thinking really is great, it's just that Father is quite stubborn about not going."

"Why?" Gu Hai didn't understand.

Bai Luo Yin looked at Gu Hai, and gestured for him to move his head closer.

Gu Hai was of course delighted with this, and almost moved his entire body over to stick close to him. Bai Luo Yin opened his blankets and covered both their heads. They lay head to head, leg to leg, hiding in the small space underneath the blankets, their voices hushed as they spoke.

"Huh?" Gu Hai was stunned. "Aunt Zou isn't a widow?"

"She has a husband, but he works overseas."

Bai Luo Yin's warm breath landed on Gu Hai's cheek, making that half of his body flare up with heat.

"You mean, Uncle and Aunt Zou were afraid people would gossip about them?"

Bai Luo Yin hesitated for a moment, his shoulder relaxing onto the bed.

"I've always thought Aunt Zou was bluffing my dad, because I thought she's already divorced her husband. Think about it, she's lived here for many years while her husband hasn't been back even during the holidays, is that normal?"

Gu Hai looked at Bai Luo Yin's irked and complaining visage, and really felt like tweaking his ear. "Are you listening?" Bai Luo Yin gently hit Gu Hai's stomach.

Gu Hai grabbed his hand, and said with a smile, "I heard you; do you mean that Aunt Zou is really single now?"

"Yes, but my father refuses to admit it."

"In my opinion, Uncle actually knows the truth in his heart."

As Gu Hai spoke, he placed his calloused and rough fingers on Bai Luo Yin's palm, tracing the lines... every fold, every crease was gently touched by his fingers, and although they seemed like casual touches, they carried a playful and teasing flavour. Bai Luo Yin's palm became more sensitive, bringing goosebumps to his arms; he wanted to open his mouth and angrily scold Gu Hai, but suddenly Gu Hai stopped moving, and only gripped on tightly to his hand.

"Don't you feel a little unhappy when your father's this close to a woman?"

"No, I've always advised Father to marry Aunt Zou." Bai Luo Yin's tone was very calm. "In all my memories, my father has always been single, can he really stay like this forever?"

"You've never thought of letting your mother and father remarry?"

"Never," Bai Luo Yin said resolutely. "The one I want is Aunt Zou, I don't want Father to suffer again anymore."

When Gu Hai heard these words, his emotions became a little more complex.

Bai Luo Yin continued speaking. "Actually, my father not opening a shop with Aunt Zou isn't just because he's afraid people will gossip; think about it, the shop is already Aunt Zou's, so Father finds it humiliating to suddenly barge into the business. We're all men, and can understand that kind of feeling; if it were a woman trying to understand him there would be a problem, so when it comes to Aunt Zou, it's impossible for her to understand why."

"That makes sense," Gu Hai said thoughtfully.

It was very dark and heavy inside the blankets, so Bai Luo Yin opened up his cocoon and took in large and deep breaths of the outside air.

When Gu Hai saw Bai Luo Yin's regularly-rising chest, and the sight of him closing his eyes and breathing in deeply, his heart started beating really fast and irregularly. Bai Luo Yin's slightly-parted lips were strangely-addictive, and it was really clear to Gu Hai that these were the thin lips of a man, not the soft ones of a woman, but Gu Hai still wanted to kiss them.

He knew his heart was gradually getting more and more warped, but he didn't mean to put a stop to things; he was very clear that he didn't have these feelings towards other men, just to Bai Luo Yin. Perhaps he appreciated, liked and felt at home with him too much, making the small snowball of their friendship gradually grow bigger and bigger, eventually rolling past the boundary line, rolling past his sphere of control. Yet he didn't want to chase it back, because he was willing to submit to the unwieldy, unstable happiness it brought him.

The night wind started blowing, so Gu Hai went to close the windows.

When he had just laid back down on the bed, Bai Luo Yin suddenly flipped over closer to him, his head looking for the softest point on the bed, eventually stopping at the dent Gu Hai's shoulder made. His warm cheeks pressed on the left side of Gu Hai's chest, his fresh, cool hair billowing around Gu Hai's neck, his arms softly moving, casually coming to rest on Gu Hai's lower abdomen, showing a very comfortable expression.

Gu Hai was a little caught off guard, and the arm of his which was being pressed down on could not be pulled out fast enough, because he was scared that if he moved, Bai Luo Yin would turn back to his original position. Only when Bai Luo Yin's breaths had become stable and even did Gu Hai relax his tightly-strung muscles. He lowered his gaze and looked at the man in his embrace, softly stroking his cheeks, as if he had found a very valuable treasure and was being careful with it to the maximum. He then closed his eyes, and quietly waited to enter into a beautiful dream...

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Chapter 72: Luck Befalls on Bai Han Qi

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"Master Bai, the director's looking for you."

Bai Han Qi took off the dust-proof mask, dragging his exhausted body into the director's office. "Old Bai, come, quickly sit down."

The director who liked to speak with a stern poker face was nowhere to be found; now, he spoke politely, even bringing over a chair for Bai Han Qi to sit on and personally pouring some tea for him. Bai Han Qi was a little confused, why was the director doing all this?

"Old Bai! We directors have decided to dismiss you."

Bai Han Qi's heart skipped a beat, and his face whitened. Now, he understood the director's uncharacteristic behaviour; in the end, they just wanted to fire him. The hand holding the tea cup began to shiver a little, and he rose to place the cup back on the desk, standing upright in front of the director, looking as if he had done something wrong.

"Director, you know my son is in high school, and it's a financially-crucial time. I still need to look after my mother, and pay medical fees every month..."

"I know," the director interrupted Bai Han Qi's words. "It's precisely because of that that I agreed to let you resign, because I really found it hard to let a man like you, who has worked so hard for ten years, go!"

"Then why do you still want to fire me?" Bai Han Qi was so agitated that he clenched his fists.

"Aren't you sending my entire family down the road of doom by doing this?"

"What do you mean, the road of doom?" the director was confused by Bai Han Qi's words. "Didn't you receive a call from over there?"

"Over there, where?" Bai Han Qi's face was a mass of bewilderment.

The director restlessly rubbed his forehead. "I see you haven't received the message! Okay, I'll give them a call over there..."

Just as he finished speaking, someone knocked on the door.

The director opened the door, seeing a man in a suit and leather shoes standing there, and he immediately welcomed him in with a smile.

"Ah, at least you've come, I was just about to give you a call!"

The man smiled and nodded his head, and looked at Bai Han Qi. "And this is?"

The director immediately called Bai Han Qi over. "This is old Bai, he's the one you were looking for."

The man stretched out his hand.

Bai Han Qi smiled apologetically. "There's ash on my hands, I think it's better if we don't shake hands."

The man didn't force Bai Han Qi, and the director started to make introductions.

"This man is the manager of Human Resources at Clean Refrigeration Equipment and Co., his surname is Miao, so you can just call him Manager Miao."

Bai Han Qi nodded towards Manager Miao.

The director poured a cup of water for Manager Miao, and quickly found an excuse to go away, leaving Bai Han Qi and Manager Miao alone in the room.

"It's like this, our company wants to invite you to be an engineer at our technical department; the monthly salary is twenty thousand after tax, and the end-of-year bonus will be six months' salary. You'll work eight hours a day, and be free on weekends..."

Bai Han Qi was stunned by his words.

"Manager Miao... your company doesn't print counterfeit money, right?"

Manager Miao was speaking very happily, so when he was suddenly interrupted by Bai Han Qi, words failed him for a moment.

"Master Bai really has a sense of humor."

Bai Han Qi laughed hollowly. "It's not that I have a sense of humor, it's that your standards for admitting me are a little unorthodox."

Manager Miao took out a photo of him. "You've worked at this factory for over ten years already, so you know the business well; most of our company's component parts are made by your factory. Also, I know your director well, so do you still disbelieve my words?"

Bai Han Qi was still a little dubious. "The problem is, I don't have the skills of that field, so how can I go to your company and work as an engineer?"

"Don't care about these things, there'll naturally be someone to guide you along."

"If things are like that, why don't you just directly hire an appropriate engineer? It's more economical that way!"

Manager Miao's head kept spinning; wasn't this man way too weird? Such a good opportunity, and he still wanted to cling on to his low-level old job! Was he really so pure, even thinking for the sake of others?!

"Master Bai, if you really don't believe me, I can bring you to my company, we've already prepared an office for you."

Bai Han Qi went like a man in a dream with Manager Miao to their company, and when he looked inside, he saw a clean and large factory building, with machines and parts all over. Comparing all these things to the machines he had built with his own hands, the latter all seemed like a little sesame seed.

"Master Bai, we're here."

Bai Han Qi snapped out of his reverie, and followed Manager Miao into another room. The room was three dozen square meters across, and was bright and spacious, a desk placed neatly in the middle, with a few large bookcases behind and various reference books to do with machines and tools filling the room; a sofa, tea set, air conditioning, a television... to cap it all off, when one stood next to the window, one could see a beautiful, green little garden.

It's truly worthy of being called a director's office... Bai Han Qi sighed in his heart.

"From now on, this will be your office."

Bai Han Qi was stunned. "...What did you say?"

Manager Miao patiently explained to Bai Han Qi, "If you agree to work for our factory, you'll work from here temporarily, and if you face any problems with it, we can make the suitable arrangements."

Bai Han Qi stood in the middle of the office, standing like he had become a stone statue.

Manager Miao opened the drawer, taking out a leather bag.

"Inside here there's five thousand dollars, take it as a gift; if you're willing to take on our proposal, please accept it, and you can come to work tomorrow.

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「Chapter 73: Da Hai coaxes Yin Shu 」

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At night after school was over, Bai Han Qi prepared a large feast.

Bai Luo Yin looked at the spread on the table, and walked to Bai Han Qi, asking: "What good event happened today? Aunt Zou came out of the hospital? Is that right? But I remember the doctor saying she would be in hospital for two weeks!"

Bai Han Qi's face was flushed, and he had especially changed into a new pair of clothes, so he just stood there mysteriously and with great dignity. He even purposely ignored Bai Luo Yin's questions, and with every step, his leather shoes made a ringing noise, perfectly epitomizing the phrase "striking a pose" with great vigor.

"Father, why are you drunk even though you haven't imbibed any alcohol?"

"Hahaha..." Bai Han Qi laughed light-heartedly, stroking his beard and looking the picture of his youthful days, "Your father has been promoted!"

"Promoted?" Bai Luo Yin's face was suspicious. "You can actually be promoted at that lousy factory of yours?"

"Not that factory; another company's found me, and invited me to be their engineer."

Bai Luo Yin's expression changed, and his voice became a little hesitant. "Father, you're not being duped by someone, are you?"

"Why do you say that?" Bai Han Qi's face blanched. "We've already signed a contract, and the payment's really good! The one who invited me knew I was suspicious of his words, and even gave me five thousand dollars as a mark of his sincerity. Next time when you have time, I'll bring you to look around my office, I'm sure you'll receive a great shock."

When he finished speaking, he turned, and cut the stewed pig ears while humming.

Bai Luo Yin stayed in the room, too stunned to move for a few moments, then quickly walked out with large strides.

"Gu Hai, come here!"

Gu Hai was currently washing his hands in the garden, and when he saw Bai Luo Yin walking furiously out of the kitchen, he immediately followed him into his bedroom.

"What's up?" Gu Hai used a towel to wipe his hands.

Bai Luo Yin's face was darkened, and his voice was interrogatory. "Regarding my father's job, did you do something with it?"

Gu Hai purposely acted innocent. "Your father's job?"

"Don't pretend you don't know anything. Who let you make it so that my father was transferred elsewhere, without authorisation? What did you mean by it? Did you want to save our family? Was it because you wanted to feel less guilty after we gave you that phone?"

"Bai Luo Yin, I don't like the words you're saying, what do you mean 'save'? What's up with your family? What do I have to save you from? Isn't it just that I see Uncle coming home exhausted every day from trying to sustain this family, and it makes my heart feel sad? He's your dad; will you let your pride interfere, and force your father to stay in that trashy factory slaving away?"

Bai Luo Yin's face was still cold. "My family affairs are none of your business."

"Say that again!" Gu Hai's tone became fiercer.

"No matter how many times I say it, it'll be the same; we can take care of our own problems!"

"You..." Gu Hai gritted his teeth, looking for something around the floor, and finally settling on the broom used to dust the bed, pointing it at Bai Luo Yin and saying: "Are you daring me to hit you?" Bai Luo Yin angrily glared at Gu Hai, not saying a word, and a provocative light in his eyes; he would see if he really dared to touch him!

To Gu Hai, it wasn't an issue of whether he dared to or not, but rather whether he could bring himself to or not.

A tense moment passed, then Gu Hai violently whacked his own thigh with the broom, sighing softly, and walked in front of Bai Luo Yin, saying gently, "I know I should have discussed this kind of thing with you beforehand, but I was afraid that your stubbornness would have cut me off before

I even started. Yin Shu, I really don't mean anything else by my actions, the job I used my connections to give Uncle Yin was all according to regulations; it's not an idle job where all you do is read the papers and drink tea, but one which you need actual skills to do. I think Uncle is a capable man, or else how could he have such a clever son? I wanted to give Uncle a good opportunity, so he could reveal his hidden potential, and be able to stand like a man in front of Aunt Zou, who is a business owner; is that okay?"

Although Bai Luo Yin hadn't spoken, his eyes clearly showed that there was a dilemma in his heart. On one hand he loved Bai Han Qi, and he felt his heart squeeze as he remembered the youthful glow on his face earlier; on the other hand, he felt that accepting this would be unjustifiable and uncomfortable. Why did his father's good fortune have to be because of Gu Hai? He himself had not had any chance to show his filial piety yet!

Gu Hai caressed Bai Luo Yin's hair, and patiently comforted him, "Look, the last few days when I helped Aunt Zou out, you didn't say anything, right? Why do you flare up like this when it comes to your dad!

Bai Luo Yin's tone was especially stubborn. "The nature of it is different."

"How is it different?"

Bai Luo Yin was unable to speak out the reason, just feeling that his heart was uncomfortable. "Isn't it common to rely on connections to earn a living in today's society? Whatever connections you have by your side should be used, why are you so against so beneficial a phenomenon?"

"It's not that I'm stubborn..." Bai Luo Yin covered his face with his hands. "I also have a couple of close friends, and when they have problems they often find us just for advice, but when it comes to you, why can't you do that too?"

"Yes! Why couldn't he not be like that too?

Gu Hai's heart felt ambiguous; this kind of answer made him secretly happy.

"Yin Shu!!..." Grandma Bai's loud and clear call sounded from outside.

Bai Luo Yin looked at Gu Hai, then replied stiffly, "Let's leave it at that!"

Then, he opened the door curtains and walked out.

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Chapter 74: Humorous Old Father Bai J

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"Grandma, what's happened?"

Grandma Bai was sitting on top of the folding stool, and chattered while sewing a small cotton mattress, "I want to eat a thunderbolt."

"A thunderbolt?" What on earth was that? Bai Luo Yin thought for a while, then asked, "Tomatoes?" "No!" Grandma Bai spoke up again. "A thun-der-bolt!"

Bai Luo Yin still did not understand.

Grandma Bai became a little anxious, and waved her hand around, trying to draw shapes in the air. "I mean... ap... ap... ah... I can't speak properly!"

"Grandma, don't get agitated!"

Bai Luo Yin looked pleadingly at Gu Hai. Recently, Gu Hai had already become the main translator for Grandma Bai's words. Last time, when the family didn't understand her words they would ask Bai Luo Yin; now, when even Bai Luo Yin didn't understand, he would have to ask Gu Hai.

Gu Hai thought deeply for a moment, then his eyes lit up.

"Grandma, do you mean apples?"

Grandma Bai was so happy that even her molars showed when she smiled.

"Yes... Yes... that's just it, a thunderbolt..."

Bai Luo Yin almost fell down; wasn't the difference between those two phrases very great? It was lucky that Gu Hai's thoughts didn't travel the usual path normal people's thoughts took. If it were another person, even if he thought so hard that his brain juices leaked out, he wouldn't be able to guess it!

"Time to eat!"

The family sat in a circle around the table, talking while eating; it was clear to see that Bai Han Qi's mood was very good that day. Without quite knowing it, he had already imbibed half a bottle of white wine, and soon began to speak vigorously about the glorious escapades of his youth, talking with a lot of spittle flying out of his mouth. Bai Luo Yin silently listened – he had not seen Bai Han Qi this way for a very long time, because even though he was usually very light-hearted, the knot between his eyebrows had not disappeared for over ten years until today, making Bai Luo Yin finally sigh in relief.

Actually, Bai Luo Yin was very touched that Gu Hai had done all this for him, but he just felt a tad of unwillingness.

"Da Hai! Da Hai! The luckiest thing Yin Shu has had so far... was to make a friend like you..." Bai Han Qi lifted one large hand and slapped Gu Hai's shoulder. "Uncle really is thankful to you for being so nice to our Yin Shu."

As he spoke, Bai Han Qi respectfully offered him a cup of wine.

Gu Hai stood up and drank it down.

The moment his buttocks hit the seat, Bai Han Qi's large hand hit him again.

"Oh, Da Hai! Uncle's also thinking of you! Today with that sudden influx of money, Uncle went to the furniture warehouse, and bought a bed for you. The last few days it's been a burden to you, forcing you to squeeze on one mattress with Yin Shu, so it would be great like this, with Uncle buying you another mattress, so in future each of you can have one mattress, and you don't need to squeeze together anymore."

Bai Han Qi had said a lot of things, but this last sentence provoked Bai Luo Yin into laughter.

Gu Hai's face turned green; he couldn't speak to thank him nor apologize, and feeling as if his throat had been injured, he suddenly found it hard to swallow his food.

"Uncle, don't waste your money, return the mattress, it's great to sleep with Yin Shu."

Bai Han Qi's eyebrows rose, and he bellowed, "How can that be? Since you've officially come to live at our house, Uncle can't treat you so shabbily. You don't need to be so polite with Uncle, we should have bought a mattress for you long ago, but although last time we were a bit tight financially, today we've just hit the jackpot and are well on our way to fortune. Uncle has always loved you as a great nephew! Hahaha..."

The words were very touching, but did not manage to touch Gu Hai's heart!

"Uncle, listen to me, I won't stay here for long, and who is to say that I'll have to move out sometime soon, so isn't it a waste if you add another mattress to the house?"

This time, Bai Han Qi didn't reply.

Gu Hai realised that he had won this round, and couldn't even continue eating, waiting for Bai Han Qi to make the call and cancel his order for a mattress.

Bai Han Qi's fingers tapped several times on the dinner table, then tilted his head and said to Gu Hai, "Then it'll be like this, these few days you can sleep on this new mattress, then when you're gone Yin Shu will sleep on it, his mattress is very old anyway and due for a switch."

Bai Luo Yin almost spat out his vegetables, and he put down his chopsticks, chipping in quickly.

"Gu Hai, since my dad's already bought it for you, you needn't be polite, just accept it."

Gu Hai almost grinded his teeth until they decreased in size; if they didn't sleep on the same mattress, was he really so happy about it? So he really detested him that much?... Fine, that was it, Gu Hai would definitely not let him have any peace that night!

(Are You Addicted?)

Chapter 75: Testing The IQ!

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English Proofreader: Raaven H.

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The BL drama "Addicted" was adapted from this novel.

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Gu Hai walked into the bedroom, and saw two one-person beds placed in the narrow room, identical blankets and bedsheets placed on top, making him feel like he had entered a room in which two people resided.

"Look, this house was already small to begin with, if you add another bed, there is no space to even place our feet in!"

Gu Hai's face was dark as he sat on his own bed, directly staring at Bai Luo Yin sitting across him. "With no space to walk around, how are you going to come in; are you planning to fly in?"

Bai Luo Yin ignored Gu Hai's peeved expression, and happily rolled into his own covers, purposely yawning with a satisfied expression.

"Sleeping alone is really great!"

Gu Hai angrily lay on his own bed, tossing a sentence over his shoulder.

"Fine, you're definitely going to fall sick tomorrow morning!"

Without his embrace, how could Bai Luo Yin hope to sleep comfortably like a sultan? "I'll be happy even if I fall sick."

Bai Luo Yin flipped over with natural movements, using his cold parting words as a weapon, shooting straight into Gu Hai's fragile heart.

Gu Hai coldly 'humphed', stepping barefoot over the floorboards to switch off the light. When he returned to his bed he still was a little dissatisfied, and stuck his cold feet into Bai Luo Yin's ball of blankets, directly stroking the bare, warm skin of Bai Luo Yin's back.

Bai Luo Yin's body violently shivered, and he spun round to give Gu Hai's lower abdomen a flying kick, pushing him back to his own mattress.

"Out!" The one word was clear and sharp.

"Why so cold? Every night I hold you while you sleep, and you sleep so peacefully; occasionally when I pulled my hand away you yourself would wriggle back into my arms... ahh..."

When Gu Hai hadn't even finished speaking, a pair of smelly socks was thrown at him.

"Tonight if you dare to squeeze over, I'm going to exchange rooms with my father."

Gu Hai grinned evilly, and lay on his own bed, using his arm to support his head, his eyes full of deep meaning and shining brightly in the darkness of the night. Only when the room was full of silence, did Gu Hai tap out a rhythm, softly humming out a tune.

"If I hadn't met you, where would I be? No matter how the days pass, how could I treasure life? Maybe if I had known someone else, I would lead an ordinary life... So I beg you, don't make me leave you. Without you, I can't feel any love..."

No other song could encapsulate Gu Hai's feelings thus far like this song.

But Bai Luo Yin could not stand listening to it; a good song was a good song, but when sung by Gu Hai, it sounded entirely different. His voice was as manly as his stature, so when singing such a gentle love song, it was natural that there would be some mistakes, but he could not even get the pitch right, and every line sung was out of tune... But this idiot couldn't feel it at all, singing until he was completely absorbed in the song, as if he wanted to break his own heart. Such feelings, when tossed into the song, really made him feel nauseous.

In the end, Bai Luo Yin couldn't stand it any longer, and faced Gu Hai to ask: "Can you not sing anymore?"

"If you don't want to hear me sing, you can sing instead."

"Why the hell should I sing?"

"If you don't sing, I'll just continue on." Gu Hai began to continue teasingly.

Bai Luo Yin hesitated for a moment, then opened his mouth and began singing.

Barely three minutes passed, then he heard soft, gentle breathing emit from the other mattress; Bai Luo Yin stopped in shock, suspiciously peering over - fuck!! He had really fallen asleep!! How dare he ask him to sing to lull him to sleep? A few phrases that people used to describe Gu Hai appeared in Bai Luo Yin's brain, like Class 27's most charismatic student, the manliest, handsome student, the

most athletic and sturdy little prince... his foot! Any way he looked at it, Gu Hai was just a callow and coarse little brat!

Bai Luo Yin exhaled, forcing himself to calm down, then flipped over and covered himself with the blankets, closing his eyes and falling into sleep.

Gu Hai waited for a very long time, what seemed like an entire century; finally, Bai Luo Yin's breathing became steady and rhythmic.

The corners of Gu Hai's mouth twitched upwards devilishly, and he gently opened his blankets, moving his legs, creeping in foot by foot towards Bai Luo Yin's mattress.

Bai Luo Yin didn't move an inch.

Gu Hai opened Bai Luo Yin's blankets, placing his leg in, then the other leg, and eventually placed his entire torso in...

"AHH!!..."

Gu Hai violently sprang upwards.

Beside him came a series of laughter, starting out soft and muffled, but which slowly became more open and louder, until even the mattress was shaking.

Gu Hai swore. "What did you put on the mattress?"

Bai Luo Yin held up a black object from beside him, and laughingly said, "A cactus I found dead in the garden."

Gu Hai closed his eyes and fervently cursed his bad luck.

"You idiot, weren't you afraid that you'd lie on it yourself when you flip over?"

Bai Luo Yin waved the cactus in his hands around. "I knew that, before I even fell asleep, you'd try to do this kind of bastard trick."

A cold and indignant yell began to faintly echo in the room.

"You're really evil!"

Bai Luo Yin smiled a little. "You inflicted this on yourself."

Gu Hai arched his shoulder over, showing a pitiful expression. "Help me massage it a little, some spines got stuck inside, so how am I supposed to sleep later?"

Bai Luo Yin hesitated for a moment, then got off the bed and switched on the light.

The suddenness of the light switching on immediately faded into incongruity; Gu Hai realised something that made blood spurt out of his nose.

Bai Luo Yin was wearing nothing but his boxers!!!

"You bastard, why are you wearing so little when you're sleeping tonight?"

Bai Luo Yin calmly and flatly said, "Last time I always slept like this."

"Then why were you always wearing so many clothes when I slept with you?" Gu Hai looked as if he had been wronged greatly.

"Find the answer from your own actions, flip over!"

Gu Hai huffily flipped his body over, and Bai Luo Yin squatted down beside his body, carefully examining the small spikes on his body. Every time he plucked out a spike, he secretly laughed; why had this idiot used so much force just now to lie down?

Gu Hai stretched his hand out backwards, sneakily stroking Bai Luo Yin's smooth thigh. "You want me to kick you off the bed?"

. . .

In the morning, Bai Luo Yin woke up happily, and suddenly saw the familiar visage of Gu Hai lying right beside him; not only that, his hands were placed on that hard object between his thighs, presenting a very unwholesome image.

"You bastard!" Bai Luo furiously kicked Gu Hai awake. "Why did you come on to my mattress again?"

Gu Hai opened his eyes, his voice a little lazy.

"Who went onto your mattress? Look properly, I'm sleeping on my own bed!"

Bai Luo Yin stopped short for a moment, then looked down; it was true, the space in between was quite big, definitely too big for a single-person bed. It was obvious that Gu Hai had dragged his bed over to place it next to his.

"Look, I didn't crawl over to your bed."

Such a clever little sneak! Bai Luo Yin cursed in his heart, pressing at his headboards to push his bed away, but it didn't succeed; the two mattresses were as if they had been nailed together, and were impossible to force apart.

"What did you bastard do? Why can't these beds be separated?"

Gu Hai's mischievous eyes looked at Bai Luo Yin's anxious and infuriated face, lightly saying, "I used the haemorrhoid cream from your house to stick them together, didn't you say this before? Your family's hemorrhoid cream is good for everything."

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(Are You Addicted?)

Chapter 76: The Emotions Finally Overflow J

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During classes, You Qi passed Bai Luo Yin a strip of paper.

Bai Luo Yin opened it, on it was written: "This weekend I went back home and saw Gu Hai's girlfriend with another man, their relations seemed quite close. I don't dare tell Gu Hai, why don't you tell him yourself."

Bai Luo Yin clutched the strip in his hands, counting on his fingers; Gu Hai had already ceased contact with Jin Lu Lu for two weeks.

Gu Hai's fingers tapped twice on Bai Luo Yin's back, and when he turned around, he saw Gu Hai stretching his finger over.

"Give me that paper strip!"

Bai Luo Yin whispered furiously, "Who gave you permission to see it? This is from You Qi!"

It was precisely because it was from him that I want to see it!! Gu Hai roared furiously in his heart. What is there between you two that you can't just say it directly, that you have to say by secretly passing papers?!

Bai Luo Yin hesitated for a moment, then wrote on a piece of paper and passed it to Gu Hai. "Your girlfriend's having an affair."

The expression on Gu Hai's face changed.

After lessons, Bai Luo Yin turned around, seeing Gu Hai texting someone on his phone.

"You haven't contacted Jin Lu Lu for two weeks already," Bai Luo Yin said.

Gu Hai made a noise of assent, his eyes showing his bewilderment as he continued, "I can't even contact her now, I'm sending a text to Hu Zi and Li Shuo, to see if they have any news of her." After a while, his phone rang, and Gu Hai walked outside to answer it.

Bai Luo Yin's heart was like a glass mirror; this Jin Lu Lu was definitely trying to play some trick. Gu Hai walked back in, his face a little shaken.

"This afternoon I'm going to Tianjin, so I won't be attending classes, help me get excused."

Bai Luo Yin nodded. "Fine, I know."

The moment Bai Luo Yin turned around, Gu Hai tapped his shoulder again.

"Wait for me to come home tonight!"

Bai Luo Yin was silent.

Gu Hai didn't pressure him to nod his head, and packed up his bag, walking out of the back door.

. . .

Whenever Gu Hai went to find Jin Lu Lu, it was usually after school, and there would always be a group of girls surrounding her, staring brightly at him whenever they saw him. Because he could not stand these girls' clingy stares and pointless interrogations, he would usually park his car under an old ash tree outside the east school gates. When she had not had a phone, Jin Lu Lu would directly go there to find him; as time passed, it became a habit for her to check the ash tree first the moment she exited the school gate.

Gu Hai walked into the classroom block. It was just during break time, and the students sat in groups in every corner chatting frivolously; the atmosphere was unlike that of a usual high school's tenseness and stress over studying, because most of the students already had job prospects for after their education ended.

Gu Hai walked to the door of Jin Lu Lu's class, and a girl who was vaguely familiar walked out, stopping short when she saw Gu Hai.

"Why... Why have you come?"

Gu Hai expressionlessly asked, "Where's Jin Lu Lu?"

"She's not in class, she's already left."

Gu Hai turned and left.

The girl grabbed a girl standing beside her. "What's happening? Is it... a break up?"

"I don't know anything either!"

Gu Hai eventually found Jin Lu Lu at the door of the school's mini-mart, she was walking out with another boy, all smiles; the boy was carrying her bag for her, she playing with his wallet, but anyone with eyes could immediately tell that these two had intimate relations.

Jin Lu Lu turned her head to speak with the boy, and saw Gu Hai.

Gu Hai coldly watched the two of them.

Jin Lu Lu immediately turned away, pretending that she hadn't seen him, then openly grabbed the boy's arm and walked off, right in front of Gu Hai.

Gu Hai didn't yell at them to stop, and didn't try to grab the boy's collar to hit him, because he knew clearly that Jin Lu Lu wanted him to do that. He returned to the old ash tree, and sat in his car quietly smoking; he wanted to calm down and think for a moment on whether he wanted to continue this romance or not.

In the afternoon after school, Jin Lu Lu and the boy walked out together. They waited for a moment in front of the gate, then got on the same car.

Gu Hai switched on his engine and followed behind them; very quickly, the car stopped in front of a hotel.

Gu Hai coldly watched them walk in.

After two hours, the sky was dark, and Gu Hai came out of his car.

"Excuse me, miss, I'm sorry to trouble you, is there someone called Jin Lu Lu staying here?"

The receptionist skilfully pulled up the list of names on his computer, then nodded and smiled a little at Gu Hai.

"Hello sir, there is a woman who booked a room by the name of Jin Lu Lu."

Although Gu Hai's heart was already prepared, but the moment he heard this verbal confirmation, his head still spun a little, and he felt like his brain had exploded.

The receptionist made a call to Jin Lu Lu's room, but there was no answer.

Gu Hai got the number of Jin Lu Lu's room, and while standing in the elevator, he was constantly telling himself not to be reckless, not to be angry; he need only get an excuse for them to separate, then immediately get out!

But when he stood in front of the room door, all the things he had been telling himself were completely useless!

With a loud bang, the entire block shook.

Gu Hai didn't knock on the door, instead fiercely extending his leg, and directly breaking the door open.

The boy was only wearing a pair of underpants and hopping around, while Jin Lu Lu was lying on the bed, covering herself with a blanket. It was as if she had already expected his coming, and in comparison with the boy's anxiety, she was very calm.

Gu Hai's voice was very fearsome.

"Jin Lu Lu, we're still not over yet, you know."

Jin Lu Lu smiled coldly, her fingers holding a cigarette, and she slowly sucked at it. "Were we still together? Why couldn't I feel it then?"

Gu Hai didn't say anything; the atmosphere in the room was really fearful, and the boy bent over to search for his clothes. Gu Hai walked up to him, pinning his throat down with his foot. The boy's face turned white, and he crumpled onto the floor, struggling for breath.

Jin Lu Lu was highly satisfied with the things that had happened so far; it had been quite fast, and she would even willingly accept his violent remonstrations. So Gu Hai could care about such things? He could even feel jealousy? So now he could experience the sour feeling of being cheated on by someone?

"I originally didn't like you, why did you need to create another reason for me to dislike you even more as an evil person?"

Jin Lu Lu's face blanched.

"Me, an evil person? That's right! So I'm evil... Let me tell you, Gu Hai, the evil things I've done so far are even worse than this! I've already slept with him! You thought you found a good thing when you started dating me? I'm telling you, before we got together, I was already not a virgin!"

After her vehement yells, there was a long period of silence.

Gu Hai's eyes were cold and emotionless.

"We're done."

After he said so, he turned and made to leave.

We're done...

These words seemed as if they weighed four thousand catties, violently attacking Jin Lu Lu's heart. She realized, when things were actually happening in real life, the things she had said earlier all faded into dust. She hadn't wanted this kind of outcome, she was *afraid* of this kind of outcome. Breaking up... it was such a cruel thing to happen.

Jin Lu Lu almost fainted onto the ground, and even tossed down all the blankets on her body; she violently grabbed onto Gu Hai's thigh, crying and sobbing loudly, as if the fierce visage of earlier had not been of the same person.

"Da Hai, I was lying to you, everyone says men are fools, they only want the things they cannot get. I wanted to make you jealous, I wanted to make you feel like our relationship was in danger, I wanted to make you treasure me more... I was only acting with this boy, he actually doesn't like me, I don't like him either, we just did all this to let you see..."

Gu Hai gave Jin Lu Lu a last look. "Go back to the bed, you're wearing far too little, you'll get cold."

Jin Lu Lu looked down at herself in shock, seeing that she was only wearing her bra and underwear.

"Da... Hai..."

The last word was not yelled out, and yet was as loud as a bang on the door.

Gu Hai switched on the engine and sped around on the expressways, his cold expression masked by the darkness of the night; the large, black ash trees, the dim streetlights, the cars being overtaken one by one. Gu Hai didn't know how many turns he had taken, how many rounds he had driven, until the extreme darkness of the night forced him to stop. Then he felt very cold, and he realised that he had forgotten to close the car windows.

He had driven onto an unfamiliar road, and he stopped his car outside a shop, his head on the steering wheel, and he slowly fell asleep. He didn't know how long he slept, but when he opened his eyes, all the shops on the street had already closed, leaving behind only a few brave souls in the Kentucky's Fried Chicken ahead.

His phone on the passenger's seat kept ringing, Gu Hai opened it up to look, it was a foreign number.

"You bastard, why aren't you home yet?"

Gu Hai didn't even have the chance to reply, before the person on the other side hung up on him. The light on his watch showed the time: 2:51.

His spirits were immediately jolted awake.

He turned the car around, his heart full of immeasurable happiness.